

ALLIED ARMIES MOVING ON TO NEW APPOMATTOX

PERSHING'S BLOW ANOTHER STROKE OF GIGANTIC PLAN.

Destruction of German Military Machine More Important Than Gain of Ground.

(By Frank H. Simonds.)

New York, Sept. 29.—(Copyright, N. Y. Tribune)—For once the sentimental almost outweighs the material elements in a military situation. The fact that our own soldiers are fighting at Verdun has a meaning for us all.

It is final evidence of the fashion in which our new army is taking up the task which the French performed so splendidly for four long years about the Lorraine citadel.

The American attack between the Meuse and the Aisne was launched from the ground which saw the bitter fighting of the second phase of the Verdun epic. At the backs of our men, as they crossed the little Forges brook, were Dead Man's Hill and Hill 304, famous in the May and June battles of 1916. Further west our men crossed the territory for which the German crown prince fought in September, 1916.

Varennes, the termination of Louis XVI's tragic flight in the days of the French revolution, has been in German possession for four full years.

Still further to the west the French are fighting over the ground which saw the first great allied offensive, that of September, 1918, the date of that last operation was Sept. 25, so an anniversary is brilliantly remembered.

And as we have taken Varennes, Mont Facon and half a dozen places memorable in the battle of Verdun, the French have taken Tahure, Cernay, Navarin farm, objectives fought for in the battle of Champagne.

To increase strain.

Now, what is the meaning of this new offensive? Why was our First army transferred from the right to the left bank of the Meuse? Why did we interrupt our push for Metz? The answer to these questions seems plain. It is the old answer. We, as a weapon in Foch's hands, are being used at St. Mihel, now at Verdun, to execute ever-increasing strain upon the enemy.

Pershing's attack, in co-operation with Gouraud, was not primarily directed at the capture of ground or the cutting of communications. These were incidental. Foch is attacking the Germans on all sides, as Grant attacked Lee seeking the destruction of the German armies.

The day is to come when some one of these attacks will cut clear through, and we shall have an enforced result, such as we are compelled to make from his great Petersburg lines in 1865. But it took many months to bring this result about. I don't think one can too much emphasize the idea that geographical objectives are minor. When we struck at St. Mihel Metz was in all mind, but instead of a bloodbath there we now have a stroke of Verdun. A new gain has resulted. We have taken guns, men, material; we have smashed a sector of the German line; plus a new stand up to his diminishing forces and contributed to a further lowering of his morale.

Germany is Outnumbered.

What has happened here is this: he said of the latest Franco-American offensive: "The central railway line connecting the German front in Alsace-Lorraine with the other front in Northern France are not more than twenty-five miles north of Verdun."

A small allied advance from Verdun to the Belgian frontier would cut these, make it next to impossible to reinforce, and force one front from the other, and give great aid to the difficulties of the German armies in France.

Indeed, it is hardly too much to say that if the Americans and French should get north from Verdun for twenty miles set north from Metz, the retreat behind the Meuse in Germany would be almost inevitable, so grave would be the threat to all German communications.

In Civil War.

If the German front from Verdun had collapsed as the Bulgarian front before Monastir caved in, the American troops would by this time occupy positions in the west, as he has been caught in the Balkans. The job has taken time, but outcome is assured.

Looked at locally, there is this to be said of the latest Franco-American offensive: "The central railway line connecting the German front in Alsace-Lorraine with the other front in Northern France are not more than twenty-five miles north of Verdun."

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In 1864-65 Pershing was striking the Canadian front. Meade's army of the Pennsylvania and Meade's army of the Potomac with Sherman's army, and with Thomas' army. Each army was contributing to a general mobilization of the entire American army, and the collective effect of the several attacks will presently be disclosed. But this blow is not more important than another. Secures, positions, territory—these are relatively unimportant.

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Two Casualty Lists Contain 765—Killed in Action, 74; Deaths From Wounds and Other Causes, 72; Severely Wounded, 579—Southerners, 102, of Whom 19 Are From Alabama, 12 From Georgia, 7 From Tennessee.

SECTION ONE.

The following casualties are reported by the commanding general of the American expeditionary forces:

Killed in action	37
Missing in action	17
Wounded severely	250
Died from wounds	22
Caused by accident and other causes	3
Died of disease	6
Died, degree undetermined	2
Total	765
Killed in Action	37

Lieutenant—JOHN H. POWELL (Mrs. E. Powell), Opelika, Ala.

Private—Jess Russell, Geneva, Ky.

Sergeant—RANSON S. BABUN (Jordan Babun), Wadley, Ga.

Private—Harry Cornwell, Paducah, Ky.

Corporal—C. Hodge, Atkins, Va.

Private—Henry F. Worthington, Miami, Tex.

Private—Oscar Gilbert, Gandy, La.

Wounded, Severe.

Sergeant—JOHN H. BEATTY (Mrs. Fanny Cobb), Jamestown, Tenn.

Corporals—CLARENCE D. FORDHAM (J. D. Fordham), Dublin, Ga.; Hugh Bushnell Tapley, Newkirk, Okla.

Private—JAMES H. LEE (James A. Lee), Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Private—JOHN EDWARD ROCHÉ (Miss Mary Ellen Roche), Blocton, Ala.

Private—John J. McNaughton, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Private—Peter J. Markowski, Milwaukee, Wis.

Private—John J. McNaughton, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

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